



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/718,942

11/21/2003

John R. Hind

RSW920030240US1

3583

25260

7590

05/31/2006

MARCIA L. DOUBET

P. O. BOX 422859

KISSIMMEE, FL 34742

EXAMINER

WORJLOH, JALATEE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3621

DATE MAILED: 05/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/718,942

Applicant(s)

HIND ET AL.

Examiner

Jalatee Worjloh

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23,24 and 30-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 23,24 and 30-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicants' election without traverse of Group IV in the reply filed on 03/10/2006 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 23,24, and 30-34 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
4. Claims 23, 30 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
5. Claims 23, 30, and 32 recites (1) "recording the cryptographic signature, the globally-unique identifier, and zero or more of the values" and (2) "recording an audit record for the transfer in an audit repository, wherein the audit record comprises the cryptographic signature, the globally-unique identifier, and the values"; however, if the values is equal to zero in (1), (2) will not be able to record "the values". Please make the appropriate corrections.
6. Claims 24, 31, and 33 recites "next-previous transfer", it is unclear what type of transfer is being taught. Is the next transfer or the previous transfer? Please clarify.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 23,24, and 30-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Publication No. 2004/0128516 to Okamoto et al.

Referring to claim 30, Okamoto et al. disclose computing, for each transfer of a particular product (i.e. ticket), a globally-unique identifier (i.e. ticket ID) associated with the transfer (see paragraphs [0044] – information associated with the ticket is stored on the ticket as indicium), computing a cryptographic signature over one or more values describing the transfer (see paragraph [0047] –the digital certificate is used to create a unique digital signature for each transaction), recording the cryptographic signature (i.e. digital signature), the globally-unique identifier and zero or more of the values (i.e. other ticket content and/or demographic information) in a product-integral ownership repository on the particular product (see paragraphs [0047] - the invention records the unique digital signature generated from each user's unique digital certificate along with other ticket content and/or demographic information on the ticket in the form of a manifestation of a secure binary string of data that is representative of value bearing instrument, such as a two dimensional indicium, [0050] – the ticket comprises secure content that contains a digital signature and/or any other information requested or required by the ticket service system. The secure ticket content comprise information

Art Unit: 3621

that relates to the transaction being performed...any other type of information the ticket producer wishes to include & [0061]), recording an audit record (i.e. transaction record) for the transfer in an audit repository (i.e. ticketing services database), wherein the audit record comprises the cryptographic signature (i.e. authentication data), the globally-unique identifier and the values (i.e. any other fields that entity generating the database wished to collect) (see paragraphs [0079] – transaction record may be used for auditing and paragraph [0093] – the ticketing service database includes authentication data and any other fields the entity generating the database wished to collect; thus, the Examiner notes the ticketing services database may include the transaction record, the authentication data/signature and the globally-unique identifier (i.e. any other fields)), and tracing transfers of the particular product using each of the audit records that pertains to the particular product (see paragraph [0085]). Okamoto et al. do not expressly disclose computing a globally-unique identifier, but this step is implied by their Okamoto et al.'s invention. That is, in order to store the ticket indicium of ticket information it must have first been created. Thus, the Okamoto et al. teach computing a unique identifier. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art modify the method disclose by Okamoto et al. to expressly teach computing a globally-unique identifier. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it creates an index that can be used to access the data in the database.

Referring to claim 31, Okamoto et al. disclose wherein each audit record that pertains to the particular product further comprises a second globally-unique identifier which is associated with a next-previous transfer of the particular product, and wherein

Art Unit: 3621

the tracing step further comprises iteratively using the second globally-unique identifier, when processing the audit record, to locate the audit record which records the next-previous transfer (see paragraph [0085]).

Claims 32 and 33 are systems comprising means for performing the steps of claims 30 and 31 above; therefore, these claims are rejected on the same rationale as claims 30 and 31.

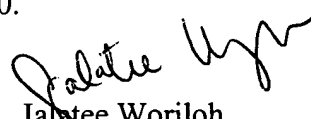
Claims 23 and 24 are computer program products embodied on one or more computer-readable having computer-readable program code for performing the steps of claims 30 and 31 above; therefore, these claims are rejected on the same rationale as claims 30 and 31.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jalatee Worjloh whose telephone number is (571) 272-6714. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Thursdays 8:30 - 7:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on (571) 272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300 for Regular/After Final Actions and 571-273-6714 for Non-Official/Draft.

Art Unit: 3621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jaltee Worjloh
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3621

May 23, 2006